



## **LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission Minutes**

**Date:** Thursday, July 15, 2021

**Time:** 6:30 PM -8:30 PM

**Location:** Conducted by Remote Participation

**\*Notice to the Public on meeting privacy\*** In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Please allow additional time to join the meeting. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by registering to receive the meeting info and using the telephone dial-in information provided.

Please read Governor Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provision of Open Meeting Law for more information regarding virtual public hearings and meetings: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/open-meeting-law-order-march-12-2020/download>

Attendees: Andy Robinson (Chair), Keith March Mistler, Lisa Krinsky (Vice Chair), Susan Ryan-Vollmar, Brooks Harrelson

Liaisons: Jillian Harvey, Director of Diversity Equity, and Inclusion; Christina Coleman, DEI Admin; Len Diggins, Select Board; Marci Shapiro-Ide, Council on Aging

Absent: Molly Gillis, Helene Newberg, Kari Sasportas

### **Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm.KMM assigned as minute-taker.

1. Remote participation statement and guidelines read by AR.
2. Welcome and introductions (include your pronouns if you want to)
3. Consent Agenda
  - a. Commission is requesting a Spring Intern – Nicole
  - b. Extension of remote participation
  - c. AHRC Commissioner Kristen Bauer requested that the commission looks at gun violence newsletter
  - d. Commission sent letter of support to Chief Flaherty for ABLE Training
  - e. Request from Lex Pride to cosponsor LGBTQIA+ seniors
  - f. BH moved to approve consent agenda, SRV seconded, unanimous vote to accept consent agenda.

#### 4. Liaison Updates

- a. Select Board: No updates; brainstorming ways to hold events in the future.
- b. Council on Aging:
  - i. LK reported that age friendly working group was approved
  - ii. Marci attended LGBT aging conference
  - iii. Drag bingo went well – over 30 ‘screens’ attended
  - iv. Council on Aging will cosponsor next senior event with LexPride: Smile Art with Bren Bataclan, Coming Out Comedy with Improv Boston, What Sustains Us with TrueStory Theater
  - v. Sage Table will be held in-person on November 18<sup>th</sup>
- c. DEI:
  - i. Fair Housing Community Conversation went well
  - ii. Next Community Conversation is 8/10 Listening to Different Perspectives & Framing
  - iii. Jill will be coordinating DEI efforts with DEI Schools Director
  - iv. Rainbow Commission Vacancy has been posted
  - v. Jill’s schedule will slightly change in September
  - vi. January is the aim for in-person meetings.
- d. Police : HN & SRV helped with ARC support of APD
- e. Library: Liasion Position is unfilled

#### 5. Working Group Updates

- a. Community Engagement – No update; AR wants to reach out to volunteers; LexPride to cosponsor LGBTQ Senior program – SRV motions sponsor, KMM seconds, all approve.
- b. Communications Update –SRV – Compiling photos and events for August newsletter; exploring ways to streamline communications; Commission will request Boston Spirit Connection creates an article about the Rainbow Commission highlighting Arlington as a welcoming community and Len & Eric as out Town Selectmen
- c. Commissioner Member and Recruitment – Continuing to recruit by networking and going to primary sources. Physical brochures will helpful.
- d. Public Education:
  - i. New Superintendent started on 7/1
  - ii. Wants to include AHS GSA members to invite students back
- e. Town Systems & Policies:
  - i. MEI – working on researching improvements in Town to improve our MEI score – policies need to be made in order to submit some items to our scorecard
  - ii. Last year we had 92 points with 8 bonus points for a total score of 100

6. New Business
  - a. Requesting intern for Intern for 2021- 2022 school year
  - b. HRC has an intern and has a commissioner oversee intern program.
  - c. BH volunteered to run the intern program for Rainbow Commission.
7. Public Engagement and Open Commentary
  - a. None

8:29 pm: SRV moved to adjourn meeting, BH seconded, meeting adjourned.

**Next meeting:** August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 , 6:30 pm, Remote Participation

Anyone needing accessibility information or other assistance in order to attend this meeting should contact Jillian Harvey, [jharvey@town.arlington.ma.us](mailto:jharvey@town.arlington.ma.us). This meeting is open to all interested individuals.